

**Title:** Interview with Donna Cannon

**Date:** April 10, 2025

**Location:** 114 Maple St, Crisfield, Donna's office

**Interviewer(s):** Mia Butta and Paige Cohen

**Interviewee:** Donna Cannon

**Introduction:** Donna Cannon talks about her life living in and growing up in Crisfield while raising a kid and taking care of her mother. She also talks about what she would like to see done in Crisfield, and a few things that she has noticed throughout the years living there.

[Transcription begins]

**Mia Butta (Butta):** So my name is Mia.

**Paige Cohen (Cohen):** My name's Paige.

**Butta:** And we're here with Donna on April 10th at her office, and we're going to get started. So the first question is, how long have you lived in the Crisfield area, and what was it like?

**Donna Cannon (Cannon):** So I've lived in the Crisfield area all my life, and it's been good. The, now, are you wanting me to say about, are- are you wanted me to answer questions about certain weather-related things?

**Butta:** Yes. So we'll get to that, this is just a few basic background questions and then we'll get into it so you can go into, you don't have to go into too much detail.

**Cannon:** Okay.

**Butta:** So, so you were born in Crisfield?

**Cannon:** I was actually born in Salisbury but raised in Crisfield all my life.

**Butta:** Okay. And why, what keeps you in Crisfield?

**Cannon:** It's my home and my- my family lives there so. And I enjoy the small town, you know, you know everybody.

**Butta:** Do you have any children?

**Cannon:** Mm-hmm. I have a son.

**Butta:** What is it like raising your son?

**Cannon:** He- the, I mean, it's good, it's good for that part of it, you know, of course he likes to hunt and fish and all of those good things and that makes it, you know, good for him. But there is, it's not too many things for young people to do there, so that's a downside. But, you know, what- what they normally, what I see my son doing, you know, he'll go hunting with his friends. That's where the extra extracurricular, if they want to go to the movies, you know it's either Pocomoke or Salisbury, for example. You know, it used to be a thing you could go to the mall and walk around and that, you know, now it's not as, I- I guess people don't do that as much now, as- as they used to. So, but it's good, it's good for him because he likes to do, he loves to be outside. Now, me, when I was growing up, what we did was, I- I mean my family was from a waterman side. So I grew up working in that, and most of the time we just rode around what they call the strip there. You just make a- you just ride around, you know, and get a fry or a drink or something like that. But we didn't have many things there as well, you know, so. They used to, they used to have a movie theater there, which was across the post office. That would have been great if they'd been able to keep that, you know, as a draw for the town.

**Butta:** So what is, or are some of your most cherished memories? In Crisfield.

**Cannon:** Cherish memories. [pauses] Working with my family, you know, really spending time with them.

**Butta:** You mentioned that your family is like water, do you have water in your background? Did you spend a lot of time around the piers and fishing growing up?

**Cannon:** Yes, mm-hmm about fishing and- and I'd even go out with my grandfather crabbing and then I helped my uncle. He would process the crabs, so I would help in that area too. So I enjoyed that. It was hard work because it's physical, you know, but I enjoyed it. Now a fun- a fun little fact on my on my grandpa because I told him is he used to take his coffee, but he never would take it in a thermos, you know, like we would take it in a thermos. He always took it in mayonnaise. Now, back then it was a jar, you know, and not plastic, and I never could figure that out. Well, when- when ice coffee became a thing, that's what I told him. I said, I called him Piles, his name was Leslie, I said, "Piles you invented cold coffee before you even knew it. You could have made a bundle of money, you know." But that- that was, that's a good memory. And, you know, of course on my mom- my mom's side lives there too. They're carpenters. And so, you know, sometimes I'd go to the job sites and stuff like that. I- I didn't get into the hammer and nail on that because on the crab side, that was a little bit easier, you know, for me to do, but I enjoyed those memories.

**Butta:** Are you religious at all? What is religion like in Crisfield? Do you attend church there?

**Cannon:** I attend church there. I play the keyboards for my church. There's- there's a lot of churches, I think, for that small area.

**Cohen:** So you mentioned that your son really likes to hunt and fish and everything like that, but what about you? How do you like to entertain yourself in Crisfield?

**Cannon:** I like to ride to the dock, enjoy the- the nature, you know, watch the sunsets at Brick Hill, they call it. I- I'm, that's how I've always known it, Brick Hill, but I think it's- I think it's been renamed now. I like go to the park. I like the nature things too, just the quieter, you know. I really wouldn't mind the, my son's trying to get me to go. "Mom, you'd love it because it's quiet and you can see nature and all this." I said, "Yeah, that part I'd love, but I can't shoot nothing." So, but he's tried to get me to go with him just because I like that, you know, the simple, I guess the simple things, enjoying the outside.

**Butta:** Now, do you attend any community events?

**Cannon:** I- I intend, let me see, let me think of one here. You know they have an outdoor they have, that one that's coming up now is soft shell crab festival so we go to that, Crab Derby. I normally don't go to the- the clam bake I didn't go to because most of the time it was in the summer and it was extremely hot and I'm not a hot, be out there all day long person, but I'd like to try it again because now it's in the fall, so I enjoy the seafood too.

**Butta:** Okay, moving on to the next question. What role does the waterfront or the Chesapeake Bay play in recreation and social life for the community or yourself?

**Cannon:** Boating, I do- oh, I forgot to mention that I do enjoy that part too. My husband has a boat so we'll go out in the boat and it's always fun. The tubing, you know, they do the tubing where they tie the- the tube to the back of the boat and pull you around. That's always fun. And now something I've not tried, although my husband wants to try it, is they do parasailing. They just started that I think last year there and that was cool. The, you know, to say a lot of people had done it, a lot people would go to actually would go the Ocean City for that and then when the when the gentleman come to Crisfield that was cool and there was a lot of people who did it so I would like to do that.

**Butta:** Yeah, that sounds fun.

**Cohen:** Yeah, it really does.

**Butta:** Do you think that the storms and flooding has impacted any of that water recreation in Crisfield?

**Cannon:** I don't, well, I don't think it's impacted the- the recreation part of it, you know, because they'll, they come and go.

**Cohen:** That takes us into the next part of the interview, which focuses more on flooding and storms. So first question is, have you noticed changes in the land, weather, water, or flooding in Crisfield? And if so, have these changes really affected your daily life?

**Cannon:** So, well, notice changes in the flooding. So as- as- as long as I've lived there, which has been all my life, and I'm 54, it's always, if it was, if it was a significant storm, even Nor'easters, you know, it wouldn't have to be just hurricanes, Nor'easters, depending on the way the wind direction of the wind and how much rain and all of that was coming with the storm. It normally would flood on my road, so I've seen it not much, just like a skimmer when I was younger. I've seen it. Have you ever seen, I don't know if you've ever watched the movie The Ten Commandments, when it shows the- the flood coming, or maybe it was Noah, it's one of those. That's how I remember as a young girl. I'd look down my street and that's how it looked. It was coming in like that. And so normally we would just be up to our knees. I remember this as a young girl and I remember it being up to the ankles because- because this is a funny story too. My mom had a pair of boots and of course you couldn't really tell too much how deep it was. You might have been as, you know, for the little steps there, and she would step into the water and it would- it would completely go over the boots because it was to her ankles, you know. And then as I got older, I noticed then it went up to the knees. And I remember, we had just got a load of firewood in and this tide came in, and we're looking out the window. It never come in our house though, we're thankful and grateful for. Underneath, but it never come inside. And we're watching our firewood float down the road. And that was I, and my husband said, "Look, there goes our fire wood!" I said, "There goes \$150 down the roads!" so all three of us got our boots on. Outdoors we go, and we're trying to retrieve the firewood. We had, we had a- a, let's see now, I'm trying to think of what his mix was. He was Siberian Husky and Labrador and he was in his kennel. And of course, when the tide come up, we brought him inside and so that's what we use the kennel for. We threw the wood in there and that kept it contained, and that was how we- we just went and walked down the road, retrieved our firewood, and one- one of us stayed there and put the one that hadn't floated away yet into the kennels and then the others we went and got. But then, and then let's go to the most recent storm, well a couple of them. One was Sandy, of course, that's known very well. And that, when the direction of the wind changed, we had, my driveway was dry that morning, I think it was that morning. Now, the end of my road had tide, right, and it had come up on the road just a little bit in front of my house, and I have a little bit of a long lane but it was not in my driveway. But when that direction of the wind changed and we were getting ready to ride out and because we didn't think it was too bad, we were going to see, you know, how it was. And I looked out the- my dining room window, which is towards the back of the house, and I seen it coming in again. I said, "We're not going anywhere." And that time, it came up to my husband's hips in our backyard, which we had, we had two big dogs, my one dog had passed away, but we had two big dogs and they were outside in their kennels and they were on top of their dog houses, right? We didn't realize it until my husband said, "Honey, you got to go get Prince and Buddy and we'll bring them up here on the porch." So he's walking out there and had his hip boots on and one of our dogs was noisy and he would let you know what's going on.

He's barking his head off. The other one, he's like, you know, I'm good, whatever. You know, so when my husband opened, this was so crazy to see, when my husband opened the kennel and the dogs are coming up, my husband's walking and they're doggy paddling and on each side of him, you know, and until they got up to the house and then- then we were good. We had had a new house built and we had it built. I think it was six- six or seven feet above the base float elevation, which was a blessing.

**Butta:** So before if you got it raised or got it built, was your home on the ground?

**Cannon:** On the ground. Mm-hmm. It was it was a night. I think it was either 1900 or 18 late 1800s so it just had those, you know, those brick piers underneath and the crawlspace was, I mean, you know, a man could fit underneath there, but and it was only like two steps. Then I was going to say the other storm was Christmas, when we had that freeze blast. I don't know if you girls were here. So we had just got home from the store, from Food Lion, and we were trying to get the groceries in, and that quick, here comes all this water, mucho water. And that night, every last bit of it froze. It was the craziest thing. I've- I'd never seen that before.

**Butta:** And do you know what year this was?

**Cannon:** I would say that was 23. Christmas 23. (2023)

**Cohen:** And you're mentioning the Food Lion. And so, I had a question here. How have these changes impacted your ability to acquire food?

**Cannon:** Well, when the tide comes up, you either wade through it or you don't go and the same thing for work. Because I didn't go into work that day because my mom was sick. I didn't want her to be home without me, I didn't want my husband and, of course, my son, not taking care of his grandmom, you know, so I stayed home from work that- that day, which I'm glad I did, because I didn't realize all of that. They were talking about, you know, you may get some tide and- and then it was supposed to come through a blast freeze, which I'm so glad I stayed home because then I was able to be there and be there for my mom or else I would have had to wade it through that tide. And basically where- where I live, most of the time it doesn't flood. I don't know if you know where PNC Bank is, and then there's a Shore Stop. Most of the time, Shore Stop moving forward on the main road, it doesn't flood. But it is on the side roads, and it is on that main road if you go towards the depot. Because normally it comes over from that side where the Family Dollar and the library is.

**Butta:** So, when you mentioned that you- you decided to stay home for work, is transportation an issue that you kind of have to plan in advance for during these types of events?

**Cannon:** Unless you're going to drive through it. And I- and I try not to drive my cars through that salt water. My truck [inaudible], my husband's got a truck. But still we try not drive through

it because depending, on the new cars I think they have some type of protection underneath, but on the older ones, you know, it can eat through your brakes. That saltwater will eat through things, so we try to not drive through it.

**Cohen:** So, do you have to personally prepare for flooding or severe storms that impact your ability to get to work?

**Cannon:** Yeah, we do.

**Cohen:** And do you see others or the city entirely preparing for these events? So, if so.

**Cannon:** Yes, like sandbags, and I'm not certain what they do with any type of flood gates or anything like that. But I have seen the, well they'll put up the road clothes, you know, deep water, seen that, and of course the sandbags. And I guess because we've lived there so long, we kind of know this can happen, you know, so you try to take every step to protect yourself and protect your property and your belongings.

**Butta:** Is there like a local weather station that would also kind of prepare you and like give you that warning for things?

**Cannon:** Yes, most of the time WBOC or channel 47 is at WMDT I think or something like that. They're out of Salisbury, I believe.

**Butta:** So you mentioned the- the freezing and Hurricane Sandy as like pretty memorable events. Are there any other flood events that you remember most vividly?

**Cannon:** Now I remember, now not as far as Crisfield, they're the only ones that I remember. Now my mom probably could tell you when she told me a story when she, she's in her 70s. I'm trying to think, that was another hurricane. I don't know if it was Hazel. It was back in the 60s. And she told me that her dad put her and all the family into a boat and rowed the boat. It was that much water you could row this boat to the armory in Crisfield. So where they lived, they lived on Cove Street back in the day, and of course the armory is on Main Street extended so he would have had to go up Cove and then Somerset and then Main Street extended that way, so it was a little bit of a row. I'm sure when he got there, he was tired, but a lot of times when that happened back in those, in the 60s, they would use the armory for, because it was built up, for, you know, a safe place. And I think they also used, now I don't know if they used the post office or not. I think they- they used a post office for like a bomb shelter when there was something going on with Cuba or something. That was back before my time, so.

**Cohen:** Now, we have another question here. Do you feel that climate change is something that people in Crisfield actively discuss or plan for?

**Cannon:** I don't, I don't, I haven't heard, now if you, I haven't heard them talking about that, but if you went to one of the local establishments called Gordon's, where they make the homemade [inaudible], you probably would hear some conversation about that at some point in time. The men gather there and talk, but I haven't heard them talk about it.

**Butta:** So have you participated in any community events surrounding the issue of flooding specifically?

**Cannon:** Other than to help people that had damage from the flood, no. You mean like a- like an event to say, "How can we help? How can we make this different? How can make this change?" I mean, I've watched on like on the city council meetings, you know, you can watch them online, so I've watch that, but I've like not attended an event. I'm- I'm trying to think if there ever if there was an event of that. [pauses]

**Cohen:** One related to that, have you experienced a sense of community in Crisfield related to this?

**Cannon:** The community comes together, yep. Especially if people are, you know, losing things because of it. They do.

**Cohen:** I'm sure that really could build, you know, a sense of community with everyone coming together about a similar issue.

**Cannon:** Mm-hmm. It is. It's there.

**Butta:** So can you talk more about Hurricane Sandy and after the aftermath of it and how you guys kind of came together during that?

**Cannon:** So, of course, there was a lot of people that were affective or affected after that because it was so much water in the lower lying areas and so we would go and, you know, try to help them get cleaned- cleaned out and all of those things, if they needed a ride somewhere because if their car was there, most of the time the tide would come in their car. So, you know, help them with food and trying to find a place for them to stay if they couldn't stay in their homes and stuff like that.

**Cohen:** Now you mentioned, was it that you had to raise your home or you built a new home that was raised?

**Cannon:** We had a house fire in my old home, and it was a total loss. And so, when we built the new home, we had to build it according to the new codes. So that's why we we built it, I think it's either six or seven feet above that.

**Cohen:** And have you had to make any repairs, any major repairs to that or anyone you know had to make repairs and, if so, what was that like?

**Cannon:** So we haven't, but I have seen people who, the tide came in their home and so then there was a group of- of men there and I'm trying to think if they were, were, I think they were either Mennonite or Amish or something of that sort, that came in and built a lot of new homes in Crisfield and raised them up because of that, because of the water. [pauses] I think there was one, let me see how many, you want me, maybe I can talk about where I live, I mean on my street. So there's one house down below my, where I lived that's been raised up, and then around the corner, there's another one like across from Family Dollar. That one's high. And then there's a road over Chesapeake, and there's, I think, there are a couple of homes on there that were raised up because of the water.

**Butta:** And what are your thoughts on relocation? Do you have any family or friends that have decided to relocate after these flooding issues? Have you considered?

**Cannon:** I've considered it, and I've considered it more of, you know, trying to be outside of the city limits, you know. That way if you want, you know, if you want livestock or something of that sort, you can have that. And- and then you also don't have two sets of taxes to pay.

**Butta:** Do you think younger generations are less likely to stay in Crisfield? I know you mentioned do you have a son?

**Cannon:** Mm-hmm.

**Butta:** Does he have any plans to stay there?

**Cannon:** He wants to be outside of city limits because he wants acreage and all of that, that he can't get because of the hunting and he'd like to have something close to the water. So he'll probably be outside of the city limits.

**Butta:** And do you think that the younger generation overall, do you think, do you see them staying in Crisfield? The younger generation that currently lives there?

**Cannon:** I, not a hundred percent. So I- I would say, I'm trying to think now maybe 60-40; 60 leave, 40 stay.

**Cohen:** What do you think is keeping them in Crisfield?

**Cannon:** Just the fact of it being their- their home and they might not, depending on what field they want to go into and all of those things. You know, if it's teaching, they most, a lot of times they try to give back to the community and get a job locally. Or a computer, like I have a friend and her son is into the computers but I can't remember exactly what- what area because that can



be a whole lot that's going on, but- so right now, his internship is, you know, up the road. And so that's probably where, you know, he'll find a job, you know, that's what he's going to school for. So I see some leave and some stay, and I think it all depends on what they're wanting to do. Now, some don't, some are like, it's not a lot to do here, you know, and they'll move away. And that's what really, I think, drives them to go away more than I- I haven't heard them say the- the flood for the younger ones. It's more of what other places have for them to do.

**Butta:** How do you think the local economy, particularly industries like fishing and crabbing and tourism, changed over the years?

**Cannon:** Well, for Crisfield, it doesn't seem to be. There's been some, I think there's been economic hardships there for them, but a lot of people come to the park. That's a draw card and, tell me, tell me some more of the question again. My mind's gone blank.

**Butta:** Industries like fishing and crabbing and tourism, how do you think they've changed over the years?

**Cannon:** And that, I believe, has changed. It's not- it's not as productive to me as it was when I was younger, when I remember. But it seems like every time you go to a crab house, they've got plenty of crabs, so I don't know, but to me, just hearing the watermen talk, it doesn't seem to be as bountiful as it was once.

**Butta:** And do you think there's any reason as to why it's not as bountiful?

**Cannon:** I- I believe it's- it's due to the pollution of the water, and I've heard a lot of watermen talk about the grasses underneath. And- and I remember as a young girl, I call them sea oars, I remember a young girl going out in a- in a skiff with my uncle, my youngest uncle, and we would go and get what they call sea oars and they would be laid in the crab box so it would be soft for the soft crabs to lay on, and that's what you would pack your crabs in. Now they do it in hay or straw or whatever. But I remember mounds and mounds of these sea oars on the banks, to the point where when you step in, it comes up to your, well above your knee. And- and my uncle would always say, "Why, did you see that rat?" and scare me to pieces. I'm hollering and screaming, running through the marsh. But now when I've gone in the boat to ride out, you don't see as many of those sea oars. And so, then I'm like, with something as it's got to be the pollution, I don't know, I'd have to read into it, but something is causing that grass to die, which is not a good thing, going by, you know, what I've heard the watermen talk about.

**Cohen:** How are other businesses doing in Crisfield?

**Cannon:** Well, the restaurants seem to be doing good, and the dollar stores are doing good. It seems to be a few, like the restaurants, except for McDonald's. We used to have Subway, but we don't have, I- I don't know what happened with that. But we, as far as McDonald's, and then most

of them are the mom-and-pop shops. So the restaurants are doing good, the bank seems to be doing good. We got two different banks, so there's something there somewhere to keep them going. We got a Dollar General, we got a Family Dollar, and then we have gift shops downtown. And they're still open, so they've got to be doing something there, so that's good to see. And Food Lion is always busy.

**Cohen:** Do you think that the future also looks good for those businesses?

**Cannon:** I believe so, yeah. I try to have a good, you know, mindset on it and not dwell on things, you know. If you don't say, I can remember as a young girl, always cars. Like I was telling you, we'd ride around the strip. We'd go get a drink to Gordon's or a French fry or whatever and just ride around and talk and enjoy, you know, put our windows down. And you don't see as many cars on the strips now, you know, as- as I did when I was younger. So, you know, hopefully there'll be something that somebody will have a brainstorm and open something that would be a draw card, you know, for them to come. Basically, you'll see nature, like there's a group that comes bird, it's bird watching, but they'll come. And it's- it's a large group that brings, that brings business to Crisfield because they'll stay for several days and you know eat in the local eateries and I'm sure check out the shops and the park is a draw and I am trying to think. The- the festivals that they are doing now, I think they are having a couple of music festivals, like they had a- what is that type of, Bluegrass, they had last year and that was good and I think that they're having some type of a country thing. I think they've had a jazz thing, which is nice, because the area that- that they do it in now is nice. It's outside, it's near the water, and it's good, you know, as far as that for the town.

**Butta:** And I hear that the sunsets are, like, the best part of Crisfield.

**Cannon:** Beautiful, mm-hmm, yep, gorgeous sunsets. And that's one of the things I was saying that in a lot of times me and my mom would ride out and watch that, watch the sunsets and go down to the depot and or go to the- the beach and that is nice too even though it's a small beach it's nice that it's there for, you know, people. You can go there. I- I wouldn't mind doing it, but I have, but I don't have good luck when I go to the beaches. Go to the beach, haul all this stuff, finally get there, and you're wore out from doing all of that, and several times I've gone, so now I say, "I don't think, I think we just need to watch it from the car, look at the water from the car." Because most times a thunderstorm would come up. It was the greatest thing, because I was thinking, it must not be meant for me to go to the beach because in my head, I'm like, pre-seeing myself there, sitting, listening at the water, you know, rolling in, and you get settled, and here comes the thunderstorm. And then you have to make a mad dash, because you don't want to be struck by lightning.

**Cohen:** Now, do you have any opinions on how the city, county, or state has handled flooding issues in Crisfield?

**Cannon:** Well, I think that I would say that I believe they've made their best effort that they were able to make at that point in time. Hopefully, that will be re-looked at and more improvements made. One improvement, and I'm not certain if this- if this was through the city or the state, because I know some things the state owns. But at the end of my road there is a- it's not really a ditch, it's a- because it has the cement things, it looks like a ditch, you know what I mean? But it's got like the cement thing's going down like that. Some type of a drainage. And for the longest time, this thing would fill up and you would always see the red light blinking because something wasn't working and the road would flood. But recently, and I would say that's probably a couple, maybe three years ago, it could be four now because time goes by so quick, they were working on that. And I guess they- they either rebuilt the pump, they- they made they made, and I think it was more than the pump that they improved on. But I've noticed that that that step that they did, whether it be the city or the state, has helped with the- the flooding on my road. That thing is pumping and doing its job. Now, of course, if it's, you know what I mean, if it is a bad hurricane, that thing, I mean it probably would lose its- I don't know if it could hold up to that. You know what mean? We might need two or three of them but that was so much water would, I'll give you an example. So much water will be there. This was in Sandy, an older lady was driving down the road, so she must not have, she lived by herself and she must have not known what was going on or she lost control. And she gets in that area and it was enough water in there for that, she had a Cadillac, for that Cadillac to bob and the fire department got to her and she didn't get hurt or anything, but when they came in several years later and they revamped whatever they did, I have never seen it that high since in that area.

**Butta:** Do you think, so moving forward, would you like to see more infrastructural changes, like more tide gates, more of.

**Cannon:** Oh, yes

**Butta:** Do you think that that would help?

**Cannon:** I think it would help. And I think too, and they may already have done this, you know. I think the ditching in Crisfield, like for example, I have a ditch here on my property and then a ditch that runs across the back. And we- we, I- I guess it just depends on the people. I don't look for the city to do that for me. You know what I mean? In other words, I'm not going to wait around until they would dig the ditch. If they did, I'm like, let's try and keep it flowing, and so me and my husband, or my husband would get his friend and they would go down and- and dig the ditches, you know, try to keep them cleared out and all that. Now my neighbor that, as a young girl, I remember a ditch being there all the way down his property, and that ditch is filled in. And you know what happens when the tide comes? The tide it comes over, it's no drainage. So I would hope, I would like for- for that to be looked at. And then is there, over the years, I'm sure there's piping or whatever under the ground that maybe probably needs to be redone or

could- could have collapsed or, you know, it's hard to tell. It might be a quick thing. You know, maybe just the ditches would help. I don't know.

**Cohen:** Now you were mentioning, you know, you would just do it yourself or your husband would do it. Do you think that your voice or the voices of other citizens in Crisfield are being listened to by your government?

**Cannon:** I- I would say no, just for me, like I've not mentioned, I haven't gone to a city meeting and- and brought that up myself. Because most- most people in Crisfield will just take it upon themselves, I believe, to do whatever they need it to do. I believe that the council would listen to us, you know, if we came to the meeting. And most time, you know, we watch, if we get a chance to, watch online on Facebook, but I believe they would they would listen at you.

**Butta:** So are you hopeful for the future of Crisfield and where would you like to see it heading in the next 20 years or so?

**Cannon:** I am hopeful. I would like to see something like the, like San Antonio has called the River Walk, I don't know if you've all heard of that. I've been there one time, it's so cool. So you have like a little area that you ride a little river boat and of course they have shops and they have eateries and the umbrellas are up and the lights are there. You know, I think that would be nice for Crisfield and something for the children, maybe. I've seen something, which we go to Chincoteague on and off, you know, just to ride out, and they have like a little area where you can do putt-putt golf. You know, of course it don't have to be huge, because Crisfield's not, you know, too big, but you've got a putt-putt golf, you've a little place that you can do the bumper boats. You know, that would be fun and- and then they have one of those towers that you climb, the rock climbing walls. Yeah. So I think that would be neat for, it would be good for Crisfield.

**Cohen:** A lot more tourism into the town.

**Cannon:** Yeah, activities.

**Cohen:** Now would you recommend Crisfield as a place to live?

**Cannon:** As a place to live, I would, well, I would say for me, I- I live there. It's got its pros and cons like any- any place would have, and I would say that the pros would outweigh the cons. The cons would be the tide and stuff like that. The pros is the- the, you know, the community, the family area, the mom-and-pop shops and they welcome people from outside in. You know, it doesn't have to just be, well, you're not a Crisfielder, so. You know what I mean? They would welcome you in and "Come over, sit at my table. Come swing on my swing." That would be the pros. And I think that that would outweigh the cons of that. Because it- it happens, but it doesn't happen at this moment, right, all the time. So that's my thoughts on that one.

**Butta:** It's really beautiful. So I guess we're on our last question, unless Paige, do you have any other additional questions you want to ask?

**Cohen:** No.

**Butta:** Okay, so what wisdom would you like to share for future generations?

**Cannon:** Mmm, what wisdom?

**Butta:** Great question.

**Cannon:** It is. Mmm, I gotta think on this one. Well, one thing would be, any gifts, I would think, and- and I'm not saying that this is not done, but I would like to see more of it, and that would be like those who have gifts and talents, no matter whether it would be music or doctors or, you know, whatever, whatever their thing is, and to bring that back to Crisfield. And, which I understand, that would, that would the- hey, it could be could be a sacrifice right on the beginning because, for instance, if you're a doctor, I mean, I guess you're always going to have sick people, so you've got job security. But would you see as many patients, you know what I mean? Versus if you are in a city, would you make as much money? But, you know, a lot of people look at money, I- I'm not saying they don't, they do. But again, I would- I would hope that the younger ones growing up will remember, you know, their memories and what- what can I do to make Crisfield better? And you know maybe it would be, hey, I'm gonna- I'm gonna host an event. Maybe it would like a- they have these, like a...every fourth Friday or something, we're going to do an art stroll or whatever. And to get the young people in on it would be wonderful. The other thing is, that was another event they do is the- the trunk-or-treat, and I was thinking of an idea to do that with golf carts, because a lot of them, a lot people love the golf carts now in Crisfield, and I think that would be a cool thing to do, you know, for something different. Like have a train or something of that and it's- it's a lot of things you could do to be creative, you know, so wisdom would be to, well, I don't know if that is that wisdom that would be an encouragement for them to come back and share their things with us but that's a hard one. It really is a hard one. So, I guess, the wisdom would be to look at all the pieces of the puzzle and then maybe put that puzzle together to what they would like to see.

**Cohen:** It's really beautiful.

**Cannon:** Mm-hmm. It's a hard one.

**Cohen:** Yeah.

**Butta:** Thank you.

**Cohen:** Thank you.

**Cannon:** Ladies, it was nice.

[Transcript ends]